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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Mitsuru HORINOE et al.

Group Art Unit: 2852

Application No.: 10/809,531

Filed: March 26, 2004

Docket No.: 119054

For: DEVELOPING DEVICE AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

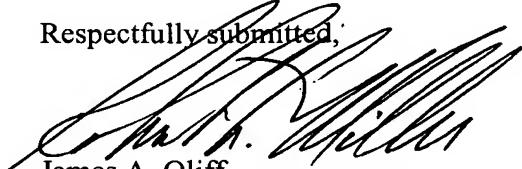
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

3. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: September 23, 2004

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Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 119054	APPLICATION NO. 10/809,531	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Mitsuru HORINOE et al.		
				FILING DATE March 26, 2004	GROUP 2852	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1	US 6,449,442 B1	09/10/2002	Shida et al.		
	2	US 6,339,689 B1	01/15/2002	Sugiura		
	3	US 2002/159781	10/31/2002	Hatori		
	4	US 2002/041778	04/11/2002	Muto et al.		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS
	5	EP 1 031 893 A1	08/30/2000	Europe		
	6	EP 1 041 452 A2	10/04/2000	Europe		
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.						